

News From  
**SENATOR LINCOLN CHAFEE**  
**RHODE ISLAND**

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## **CHAFEE ANNOUNCES USDA GRANT TO SMITHFIELD**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved a \$50,000 Rural Business Enterprise Grant to the Town of Smithfield. The funds will be used to provide technical assistance and to establish a revolving loan fund for small and emerging businesses.

“Rhode Island’s small businesses are the backbone of our state’s economy,” said Chafee. “I am pleased that these federal funds will help stimulate job creation and at the same time expand Smithfield’s tax base.”

The Town of Smithfield’s revolving loan fund will provide gap financing in the form of low-interest loans to enable as many as 30 local small businesses to grow and strengthen.

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